

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY: LTJG:V.S. CREA USCG

APPROVED BY: OES/ENP/EN:LINDSEY GRANT

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV US, UR

SUBJ: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT, PROJECT VI-1.1

1. REQUEST EMBASSY TRANSMIT FOLLOWING TO MR. V. KH. DUBCHAK, CHIEF, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATION, MINISTRY OF THE MERCHANT MARINE, 1/4 ZHDANOV ST., MOSCOW, USSR, WITH COPY TO KAZAKOV OF HYDROMET.

2. QUOTE: DEAR MR. DUBCHAK: IT WAS A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU AT THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DURING WHICH I ASSUMED THE ROLE OF U.S. PROJECT LEADER FOR PROJECT VI-1.1 OF THE US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT. (FOR INFORMATION CDR J. SIPES WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE ON MY BEHALF AS U.S. COCHAIRMAN OF US-USSR TASK GROUP ON PREVENTION AND CLEAN-UP OF POLLUTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT FROM SHIPPING).

3. IN THIS RESPECT, I WOULD LIKE TO ELABORATE ON MY PROPOSAL TO JOINTLY CONSIDER A TASK DIRECTED TOWARD THE BERING STRAIT IN THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PROGRAM OF FUTURE COOPERATION UNDER PROJECT VI-1.1.

AS YOU RECALL, U.S. CO-CHAIRMAN TRAIN IN HIS OPENING REMARKS DURING THE JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSED THE BERING STRAIT AS AN AREA OF IMPORTANCE TO BOTH THE US AND USSR; USSR CO-CHAIRMAN IZRAEL AGREED THAT BOTH SIDES SHOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER NEW PROPOSALS AND CONTINUE TO IDENTIFY NEW AREAS OF MUTUAL CONCERN SO AS TO MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM OF THE AGREEMENT. AS US PROJECT LEADER, I FEEL A TASK ON THE BERING STRAIT WOULD BE MOST APPROPRIATE WPTHIN OUR PROJECT AND WOULD BE MOST BENEFICIAL TO BOTH SIDES.

4. SPECIFICALLY, AN EXAMPLE OF A QUESTION WHICH REQUIRES THE ATTENTION AND JOINT DELEIBERATION OF BOTH THE USSR AND THE US IS THE COORDINATION OF EFFORTS TO DEAL WITH SPILLAGE OF OIL WHICH POTENTIALLY MAY AFFECT OUR RESPECTIVE NATIONS IN THE BERING STRAIT AND BERING AND CHUKCHI SEAS. I URGE THAT DURING THE DECEMBER 1975 MEETING OF THE JOINT-US-USSR TASK GROUP ON PREVENTION AND CLEANUP OF POLLUTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT FROM SHIPPING THAT WE AGREE TO INCORPORATE A TASK INTO OUR FUTURE JOINT PROGRAM TO DEVELOP A US-USSR CONTINGENCY PLAN JOINTLY OR COOPERATIVELY DEALING WITH SPILLAGE IN THE AFFECTED AREA. I SUGGEST THIS ITEM FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION IN THE BELIEF THAT YOU WILL AGREE THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH A PLAN IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE. WE PLAN TO OPEN THIS QUESTION FOR DISCUSSION IN MORE DETAIL DURING THE DECEMBER 1975 MEETING.

5. AN ADDITIONAL RELATED TOPIC WHICH WE SHOULD CONSIDER IS JOINT AND COOPERATIVE RESEARCH ON METHODS AND TECHNICAL MEANS FOR REMOVAL OF DISCHARGED OIL UNDER LOW TEMPERATURE CONDITIONS OF THE WATER AND ATMOSPHERE. AS YOU RECALL, THIS TOPIC WAS PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED AS AN AREA FOR FUTURE COOPERATION AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE JOINT US-USSR TASK GROUP IN MAY 1973 (ITEM 8(B). 25 MAY 1973 MINUTES OF AGREEMENT) AND DISCUSSED FURTHER AT THE SECOND MEETING OF THE TASK GROUP IN AUGUST 1973. I BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD AGAIN DIRECT OUR ATTENTION TO SUCH A JOINT PROGRAM SINCE BOTH OUR NATIONS HAVE AN OBVIOUS NEED TO DEVELOP TECHNIQUES AND EQUIPMENT WITH WHICH TO RESPOND TO POLLUTION INCIDENTS IN LOW TEMPERATURE CONDITIONS. SUCH AN EFFORT HOLDS MUCH PROMISE FOR MUTUAL BENEFIT, AND I URGE THAT IT BE INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM FOR DISCUSSION AT THE DECEMBER 1975 MEETING.

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6. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THESE AND OTHER ISSUES CAN BE ADDRESSED SATISFACTORILY IN THIS FOURTH YEAR OF THE US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT AS WE BEGIN TO HARVEST RESULTS FROM THE EXTENSIVE PRELIMINARY WORK OF THE FIRST THREE YEARS.

7. WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING YOUR DELEGATION ON 30 NOVEMBER 1975 AT KENNEDY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TO FOLLOW THE ITINERARY PROVIDED YOU DRING THE FOURTH JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING.

SINCERELY CAPTAIN F.P. SCHUBERT. UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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